

Editorial Note

On behalf of the Editorial Board, it is a great honour to present to you the first issue of the *Nordic Journal of Legal Studies*. This journal is a product of hard work and countless hours of editing. The journey of compiling articles to create this publication was far from easy. However, the *Nordic Journal of Legal Studies* has made the challenges encountered and efforts dedicated to its completion wholly worthwhile.

The *Nordic Journal of Legal Studies* was borne from a comment made in a 2018 lecture by Professor Thomas Hoffmann, who noted that it may be possible for students to publish articles in academic journals as part of their undergraduate studies. This fleeting statement in the lecture turned out to be far more valuable than Dr. Hofmann could have perceived. In the audience, there was one intrigued student who held a particular interest in a pragmatic legal issue caused by the onset of Brexit. The subsequent analysis of that pragmatic legal issue became the first scholarly article authored by the student, now the Editor-in-Chief of this publication, which paved the way into the world of academic publishing.

The Editor-in-Chief participated in the 2019 *Nordic Conference on Legal Informatics* held in Rovaniemi, Lapland. This participation sparked the desire to apply to graduate studies at the University of Lapland, an institution well known for its focus on Law and IT. In 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, a proposal was submitted to Advisory Board member, Dr. Mikko T. Huttunen. The proposal was for a fully electronic, pan-Nordic student journal dedicated to law students' articles. Many academics would have considered this proposal to be unusual and overly ambitious, but not Dr. Huttunen and his colleagues Dr. Anssi Kärki and Dr. Juhana Riekkinen. They saw the potential of the proposal and assisted in the tedious process of journal development – from finding and editing

articles to finalizing templates and the layout. Now that we have overcome the challenges of journal creation, we anticipate facing the challenge of how to make this journal succeed.

The vision of providing empowerment to current students, through the publication of their finest works, and opening an opportunity to all students of future generations to showcase their work was my drive, as Editor-in-Chief, to develop the *Nordic Journal of Legal Studies*. In turning this vision into a reality and for finding value in my somewhat odd proposal back in 2020, I would like to express my gratitude to the Advisory Board, especially to Dr. Huttunen. Finally, I would like to thank you, our dear reader, for reading our journal, thereby supporting it, and for contributing to the continued success of the *Nordic Journal of Legal Studies*.

Touko Johannes Sinisalo
Editor-in-Chief